UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1994/151
10 February 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

NOTE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the Security Council a letter submitted by the Executive Chairman of the Special Commission established by the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 9 (b) (i) of Security Council resolution 687 (1991).

Annex

Letter dated 5 February 1994 from the Executive Chairman of the Special Commission addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a joint statement issued upon the conclusion of the high-level talks between the Government of Iraq and the United Nations Special Commission, held in Baghdad from 2 to 5 February 1994. I would be most grateful if you could issue instructions for its circulation as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Rolf EKÉUS
Executive Chairman
Office of the Special Commission

Appendix

Joint statement dated 5 February 1994 by the Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq, H.E. Mr. Tariq Aziz, and the Executive Chairman of the United Nations Special Commission, Ambassador Rolf Ekéus, issued at the conclusion of the high-level talks held in Baghdad, from 2 to 5 February 1994

1. The breakthrough in relations between Iraq and the Special Commission (UNSCOM) achieved in July 1993 was consolidated during the latest round of high-level talks between Iraq and the Special Commission held in Baghdad from 2 to 5 February 1994. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was represented in the initial phases of these talks. The current talks reviewed the steps taken by both sides to put in place ongoing monitoring and verification since Iraq's acceptance, on 26 November 1993, of Security Council resolution 715 (1991). In this respect, these talks built upon the significant progress made since July, in both the political and the technical areas, in the previous rounds of high-level talks held in New York and Baghdad during the months of September, October and November 1993.

2. The two sides expressed their readiness to expedite the process of establishing ongoing monitoring and verification in a spirit of goodwill, in order to achieve their joint objective, namely at the earliest feasible time, for the Commission and IAEA to report to the Security Council that, in their view, Iraq had taken all the actions called for by paragraph 22 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991). The Commission indicated that, in this context, the intense phase of inspections already initiated in all the areas coming within its mandate would be continued. Iraq indicated that it would welcome all such inspection teams and facilitate their tasks.

3. Technical talks were also held on a number of issues. These talks were conducted in a professional and business-like manner and yielded positive results.

4. It was agreed that a further round of high-level talks would be held in the first half of March 1994 in order to maintain the momentum imparted to the process by the current and previous rounds.